

FY06 Idaho Flex Program Grant: Award Summary

The State Office of Rural Health released guidance for a new grant opportunity, funded by the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, in November 2006. Eligible applicants for the Flex Grant included: designated Critical Access Hospitals, rural health networks (nonprofit and include at least three CAHs); and rural EMS agencies that directly serve a CAH area. Applicants could request up to \$30,000 and the total amount available during the FFY 2006 funding cycle (ending August 31, 2007) was \$120,000.

Fourteen grant applications from eligible applicants requesting \$395,466.94 were received. The Flex advisory committee reviewed applications and made the following award determinations:

- Bear Lake Memorial Hospital (\$30,000): Develop and implement a “charge catcher” system to improve financial performance which will be shared with three other CAHs. Partners: Steele Memorial Hospital, Franklin County Medical Center, and Bingham Memorial Hospital.
- Bingham Memorial Hospital (\$29,461.68): Improve access to pediatric rehabilitation services in Bingham County and provide educational materials and support to parents of children with developmental delays and disorders. Partners: Blackfoot School District, PiOT Place, Idaho State University, Infant and Toddler Program, and District 6 Child Find.
- Franklin County Medical Center (\$30,000): Integrate and implement an electronic medical records system across the healthcare continuum in Franklin County. Partners: Franklin County EMS, Dr. David Beckstead’s Family Clinic, and Dr. Lynn Eskelson’s Preston Family Medical Clinic.
- Gooding County EMS (\$26,916): Establish and support the activities of the Gooding County Healthcare Community Learning Project. Partners: Gooding County Memorial Hospital, Gooding Fire Department, Gooding County Health Academy, Hagerman QRU, and Wendell QRU.